REMARKS

Claims 29-49 are pending in this application. Claims 29, 32, 38, 39, 44, 45 and 49 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 29-49 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 29-49 of copending U.S. Application Serial No. 10/246,450. Applicants note that claims 29-49 of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/246,450 have been canceled in an Amendment filed July 23, 2004 (copies of the as-filed Amendment and of the stamped postcard indicating the July 23, 2004 filing date of the Amendment are attached). Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 29-49 is respectfully requested.

Claims 29-34 and 38-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Saoudi (U.S. Patent No. 6,448,559). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claimed invention relates to a "radiological imaging method" according to which an X-ray source is moved in the longitudinal direction of the bed inside the γ-ray detecting section, when an X-ray is detected. For example, amended independent claim 29 recites a "radiological imaging method" by *inter alia* "detecting the X-ray passing through a test object administered with radiopharmaceutical, said object being placed on a bed." Claim 29 also recites "detecting a γ-ray emitted from said test object due to said radiopharmaceutical in said test object at a position of said test object irradiated with the X-ray with a γ-ray detecting section placed around said bed and aligned in a longitudinal direction of said bed." Claim 29 further recites "moving an X-ray source in said longitudinal direction inside said γ-ray detecting section, when the X-ray is detected."

Saoudi fails to disclose all limitations of claims 29-34 and 38-48. Saoudi discloses a radiation detecting apparatus comprising a detector aggregation 10 having a first

layer 12 for detecting an X-ray (or γ-ray of low energy) and a γ-ray of medium energy and a second layer 14 for detecting a γ-ray of high energy. The first layer 12 of Saoudi comprises a thin CsI(TI) scintillator, and the second layer 14 of Saoudi comprises a pair of LSO/GSO scintillators. In Saoudi, a collimator 104 is placed inside the detector aggregation 10 which is arranged in a circumferential direction, and an X-ray source is provided. Thus, Saoudi does not disclose that an X-ray is moved in a longitudinal direction of a bed inside a γ-ray detecting section, when an X-ray is detected, much less "moving an X-ray source in said longitudinal direction of said bed inside said γ-ray detecting section, when an X-ray is detected," as claims 29, 32, 38, 39 44 and 45 recite. For at least these reasons, Saoudi fails to anticipate the subject matter of claims 29-34 and 38-48, and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is respectfully requested.

Allowance of the application is solicited.

Dated: August 18, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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